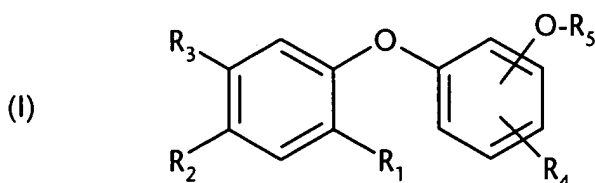


## IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly replace the prior claims listing by the following listing.

1-5 (cancelled).

6. (currently amended): A method of ~~reducing body odour by means of the~~ inhibition of arylsulfatase on the skin of a person in need of said inhibition, which comprises applying to said skin a ~~cosmetic deodorant or antiperspirant~~ composition comprising an effective amount of at least one arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance selected from hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> independently from each other are hydrogen; hydroxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl; phenyl; or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl;

R<sub>4</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl; hydroxy; formyl; acetyl; allyl; carboxy; carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; carboxyallyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkylcarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; phenyl; or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; and

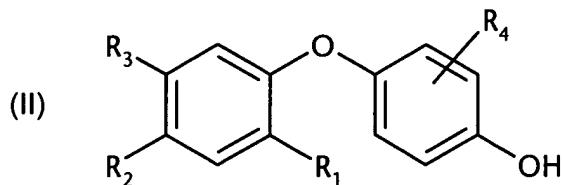
R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkoxy; or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl, with the proviso that at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> or R<sub>4</sub> is OH or R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen.

7-8 (cancelled).

8. (currently amended): A method of ~~reducing body odour~~ inhibition of arylsulfatase according to claim 6 wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is used gender-specifically in respect of the amount and/or nature thereof.

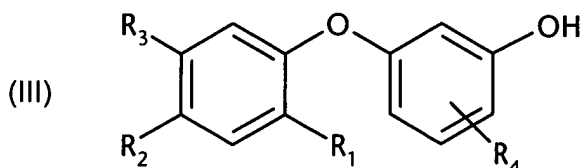
9. (currently amended): Method of ~~reducing body odour~~ inhibition of arylsulfatase according to claim 6, wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is used for reducing body odour in men.

10. (new): A method according to claim 6, wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is selected from hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



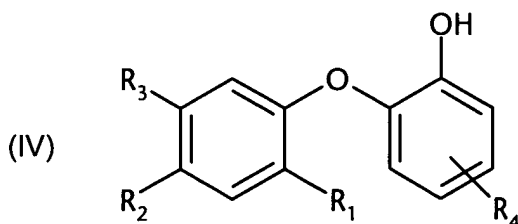
wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkoxy, phenyl or phenyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl group,  $R_3$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkoxy group and  $R_4$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl, hydroxy-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkylcarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or carboxyallyl group,

hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein  $R_2$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl, hydroxy-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl group,  $R_1$  and  $R_3$  are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl group and  $R_4$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl, hydroxy-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkylcarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or carboxyallyl group, and

hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein  $R_1$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl group,  $R_4$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl, hydroxy-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkylcarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or carboxyallyl group and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl group.

11. (new): A method of inhibition of arylsulfatase according to claim 6 wherein the composition comprising an effective amount of at least one arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is a deodorant or antiperspirant composition.